Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00474 290632Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W

-----121168 290633Z/13

R 290705Z JUN 77 FM AMCONSUL PALERMO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2127 INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS PALERMO 0474

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJECT: LIMITED LOCAL ELECTIONS IN SICILY

1. SIX SICILIAN TOWNS, DISTRIBUTED IN FOUR OF ISLAND'S NINE PROVINCES, ELECTED CITY COUNCILS IN JUNE 26-27 VOTE. FOUR, WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF 6,257, VOTED BY MAJORITY SYSTEM. ONLY TWO WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF 12.700. VOTED UNDER PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM. VOTE WAS SO SMALL, SCATTERED AND LOCAL IN CHARACTER THAT ANY INTERPRETATION BEYOND COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS DATA WOULD BE UNWARRANTED. EVEN LOCAL PRESS COVERED RETURNS AS INSIDE-PAGE EVENT. 2. THE TWO COMMUNES, PANTELLERIA (TRAPANI PROVINCE) AND RAMACCA (CATANIA PROVINCE), WHICH VOTED UNDER PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM, SAW SMALL GAINS FOR PCI AND PSI AT THE EXPENSE OF THE DC AND OF HYBRID LOCAL TICKETS. THE DC LOST ONE SEAT IN PANTELLERIA AND TWO IN RAMACCA. DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE, IN FIRST SICILIAN ELECTION OUTGOING, TOOK ONE OF MSI'S FOUR SEATS IN PANTELLERIA CITY COUNCIL. 3. ABOVE PATTERN WAS ALSO REFLECYTED IN THE FOUR TOWN VOTING UNDER THE MAJORITY SYSTEM. IN BUSCEMI (SIRACUXA PROVINCE) THE DC LOST ITS PREVIOUS MAJORITY TO A LOCAL CENTER-LEFT TICKET WHILE RETAINING OPPOSITION-PARTY IN CASTROFILIPPO (AGRIGENTO PROVINCE). A "CIVIC LEFTIST" LIST CARRIED MAZZARONE (CATANIA PROVINCE) WHICH WAS VOTING FOR THE FIRST TIME AS INDIPANDENT COMMUNE. IN CONTESSA ENTELLINA ("PALERMO PROVINCE), A LEFTIST UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PALERM 00474 290632Z

GROUPING RETAINED A SLIM, BUT REDUCED MAJORITY OVER A HETEROGENEOUS LIST BASED ON DC. COLLINS

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Message Attributes

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